

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method of inducing a plastic deformation in a web of indeterminate length, wherein the web has a first side and a second side, the method comprising:

creating a web path for a web of indeterminate length, the web path including a first portion, a second portion, and a third portion,

wherein the first portion is defined at least partially by a first rotating member, the second portion is defined at least partially by a second rotating member and the third portion is defined between the first rotating member and the second rotating member, wherein the first and second rotating members are co-rotating members, the web path including the location where the web initially contacts the first rotating member and the location where the web leaves the second rotating member;

passing the web of indeterminate length through the web path, wherein there is no contact with the web along the web path on the second side of the web in the first, second, and third portions of the web path;

inducing a plastic strain in the web when the web is passed through the third portion of the web path, the third portion forming a radiused section in the web having an effective radius, wherein the radiused section of the web is oriented substantially horizontally in the third portion of the web path;

measuring the distance that the radiused section of the web extends into the third portion of the web path with a sensor to determine at least one of a measured position and a measured radius of the radiused section;

creating a signal based on at least one of the measured position and the measured radius; and

controlling the effective radius based on the signal while the web is moving through the web path.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein creating the web path further includes creating the first portion defined at least partially by a first roller and creating the second portion defined at least partially by a second roller.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein creating the web path further includes creating the first portion defined at least partially by a first belt assembly and creating the second portion defined at least partially by a second belt assembly.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further including:
varying the radius of the web as it passes through the third portion of the web path based on a predetermined set of values.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said inducing a plastic strain includes inducing a plastic strain that varies as a function of the web in the machine direction.

21-23. (Cancelled)

24. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the first rotating member and the second rotating member are aligned substantially vertically with respect to one another.

25. (New) A method of inducing a plastic deformation in a web of indeterminate length, wherein the web has a first side and a second side, the method comprising:

creating a web path for a web of indeterminate length, the web path including a first portion, a second portion, and a third portion,

wherein the first portion is defined at least partially by a first rotating member consisting of one roller, the second portion is defined at least partially by a second rotating member consisting of one roller, and the third portion is defined between the first rotating member and the second rotating member, wherein the first and second rotating members are co-rotating members, the web path including the location where the web initially contacts the first rotating member and the location where the web leaves the second rotating member;

passing the web of indeterminate length through the web path, wherein there is no contact with the web along the web path on the second side of the web in the first, second, and third portions of the web path;

inducing a plastic strain in the web when the web is passed through the third portion of the web path, the third portion forming a radiused section in the web having an effective radius;

measuring the distance that the radiused section of the web extends into the third portion of the web path with a sensor to determine at least one of a measured position and a measured radius of the radiused section;

creating a signal based on at least one of the measured position and the measured radius;
and

controlling the effective radius based on the signal while the web is moving through the web path.